Will You Be a Bigot for Christ?

One of my pet peeves in this world is how we are expected to tolerate the wrong opinions of others even when they are willingly ignorant of the truth Now what I mean by that is simple. Of course everyone is entitled to believe whatever they wish, however what one chooses to believe has no bearing on reality. It seems that many people cannot discern the difference between absolute truth and mere opinion.

For example I like vanilla ice cream, however I don't go around telling everyone that vanilla ice cream is the only flavor that is good. But when it comes to matters of faith as true Christians we must proclaim that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the only way to avoid Hell. In doing so we are being bigoted and intolerant by today's warped standards, but that's okay by me. By writing this I hope to convince you to become a bigot like me, at least when it comes to matters of absolute truth.

> **Bigot - A person who is obstinately and unreasonably wedded to a particular religious creed, opinion, practice or ritual. The word is sometimes used in an enlarged sense, for a person who is illiberally attached to any opinion, or system of belief; as a bigot to the Mohammedan religion; a bigot to a form of government.**
> **Webster's 1828 dictionary**

This is the true meaning of the word 'bigot'. As with many words these days this one was twisted to mean something else. As a matter of fact **the first video I made** was on how the definition of the word marriage was changed by Merriam-Webster to include homosexual couplings!

> **And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.**
> **1 Peter 2:8 (KJV)**

Do you 'obstinately and unreasonably' cling to the cross of Christ? I know I do. But the cross is an offense to them, do you care what they think of it? When it comes to absolute truth many deny it even exists. Pilate himself asked Christ "What is truth?" (**John 18:38 KJV**).

> **Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.**
> **Matthew 7:6 (KJV)**

Within the body of Christ we have a doctrine of not casting our pearls before swine. We understand this to mean not to share valuable things with those who cannot grasp their value. And what more valuable thing do we have than the gospel of our savior Jesus Christ?

> **But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.**
> **2 Corinthians 4:3-4 (KJV)**

As Christians we have a difficult road to maneuver. On one hand we must always respect a person's free will, which like it or not even extends to their inherent right to choose to go to Hell. God in fact respects our free wills so much that He allows Satan to blind the willingly ignorant to the truth. This is a hard pill for many to swallow but it's true nevertheless.

On the other hand we must not allow ourselves to be intimidated into silence by scurrilous accusations, whether they be of bigotry, being judgmental or anything else. When it comes to matters of determining absolute truth our final authorities are the gospel of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. I know homosexuality is a sin because my bible tells me so. That doesn't mean I hate homosexuals, I just hate their abominable practices.

> **Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.**
> **Luke 18:10-14 (KJV)**

But we must also constantly remind ourselves that we cannot qualify sin, all sin is an abomination to God and we all remain sinners. As a Christian the only difference between me and the vilest of murdering, raping sinners is the recognition of my inherent wretchedness, a sincere desire to stop sinning and the blood of Christ. That is the point of the above parable. As a fellow sinner who has found the way out this knowledge doesn't move me to hatred or despise my fellow sinners, but to have compassion for them.

> **No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.**
> **Mark 3:27 (KJV)**

I was once like them but now I am a different kind of sinner. How so? Even as I still struggle with sin I now have that 'strong man' in charge of my house. He is the Holy Spirit. He will leave if I want Him to, but as long as He's here He will help me to fight any demon that would try to spoil this house. To put it in other words, my body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (**1 Corinthians 6:19 KJV**).

> **When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out. And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first.**
> **Luke 11:24-26 (KJV)**

Now compare that to the person without the 'strong man'. There is nothing to stop them from coming back which is why attempting to do a deliverance on someone who has not turned their life over to Christ is not only fruitless, but dangerous. There is no Holy Spirit there to keep the demons from coming back seven times stronger!

In recent weeks the story of an apparently racist NBA owner has been front page news. But while everyone seems to savor punishing him for his views and patting themselves on the backs in the process I can't help but be concerned. Why? Because we are cheering the punishment of a man for what amounts to thought crimes and so called 'hate speech'. What happened to freedom of speech in America? I was taught that it was exactly this type of vile speech that was protected by the first amendment.

Of course America is not the country we were told it was, but the bigger danger here is the fact that the proverbial handwriting is on the wall. Mark my words. Today it is racist speech that is punished, tomorrow it will be insulting Islam, Allah or any other religion. It will be speaking out against homosexuality or any other 'lifestyle' that's protected from being rightly criticized for what it is: sin.

> **For Herod himself had sent forth and laid hold upon John, and bound him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife: for he had married her. For John had said unto**

Herod, It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife.
Mark 6:17-18 (KJV)

Will you be a bigot for Christ? John the Baptist was cast into prison and eventually lost his head for no reason but that he dared to condemn king Herod's immorality. Will you remain silent when it becomes a crime to insult Islam, your government or any sinful lifestyle?

Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?
John 6:60-61 (KJV)

John the Baptist didn't care about being politically correct, hurting people's feeeelings or being accused of judging others. He proclaimed the truth regardless of the consequences. And don't think for a minute these men in the bible are special cases. They are not to be placed on pedestals, they are our brothers and their examples are standards for us to live by, and even surpass. We have the exact same Holy Spirit available to us as men like John the Baptist and Stephen did.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.
1 Corinthians 2:14 (KJV)

Will you fear men who can kill the body, or our God who has the power to place men in Hell? To those who don't believe the gospel it is foolishness, yet we are called to 'obstinately and unreasonably' proclaim it, even in the face of death. Why? Because it is the truth and scripture tells us that the Holy Spirit is the 'spirit of truth'. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit He moves you to speak the truth just as our brother Stephen did in Acts chapter seven. May it be unto you according to your faith.